

REMARKS

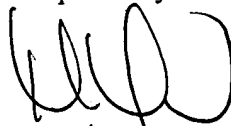
Claims 1, 3-9 and 12-15 are pending in the present application with claims 2, 10 and 11 being canceled during prosecution of the prior international Application No. PCT/JP99/06408. With entry of this Amendment, Applicants hereby cancel claims 1 - 15 and add new claims 16-31.

Applicants are submitting herewith a corrected Fig. 18. This figure has been corrected to show it as prior art.

The Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable consideration of the application is respectfully requested. If the Examiner feels that it would advance the prosecution of the application, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned attorney.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 285032005901.

Respectfully submitted,



By: _____

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